to acute shortage of aircraft capacity and lack of infrastructural facilities, they are at present not in a position to link more places in the State.

Development of Machilipatnam Beach In Andhra Pradesh as a Tourist Spot

2227. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for the development of Machilipatnam beach in Krishna district of Andhra Pradesh as a tourist spot;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATIL): (a) to (c) The Central Department of Tourism provides financial assistance to States for development of tourism infrastructure at tourist centres on the basis of the specific proposals received from the State Governments. The Department has received any proposal from the Government of Andhra Pradesh for Central financial asistance for development of Machilipatnam beach in Krishna district.

Rural Sports Centres in Andhra Pradesh

2228. SHRI PRABHAKAR RAO KALVALA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of rural sports centres opened in Andhra Pradesh, so far;

(b) what is the amount of Central assistance provided to those centres during the last two years;

(c) whether Government propose to enhance Central assistance;

(d) if so, what are the details thereof;

(e) whether there is any proposal to open more rural sports centres in that State; and

(f) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS AND WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b) The total number of Rural Sports Centres opened in Andhra Pradesh so far is being ascertained. During the last two years grants as mentioned below were released to Andhra Pradesh for establishment and maintenance of Ruaral Sports Centres:—

1986-87	Rs. 1,05,300/-
1987-88	Rs. 1,71,000/-

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) No, Sir,

(f) Does not arise.

Non-formal Education Centres

2229. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of non-formal education centres, functioning in different States, so far, under the universalisation of Elementary Education Programme;

(b) whether Government have a proposal to increase the number of such non-formal education centres during the Seventh Five Year Plan period; and

(c) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI L. P. SHAHI): (a) As

on 31 October, 1988, grants have been released to State Governments and Union territories and to Voluntary Organisations for operating 2,30,258 Non-Formal Education Centres.

(b) Yes, Sir.

(c) The target for the Seventh Plan is to set up 3,55,00 NFE centres by the end of 1989-80.

Space Tie-up with China

2230. SHRI YALLA SESI BHUSHANA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to have space tie-up with China; and

(b) whether there would be any general discussions in the beginning of this aspect during the proposed visit of the Prime Minister to China?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI K. NATWAR SINGH): (a) and (b) Matters concerning functional exchanges between India and China in various fields, including those in the field of Science and Technology, are being discussed with the Chinese Government.

Implementation of National Literacy and Immunisation Programmes

2231. SHRI JAGADISH JANI: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the Ministry of Railways have taken any steps to implement National Literacy and Immunisation Programme; and

(b) if so, what are the details of training centres which have been opened or ogranised by his Ministry for that purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) Ministry of Railways (Railway Board) have taken steps to assist in National Literacy and Immuinsation Programme.

(b) A total number of 389 Training Centres have been opened on the Zonal Railways to impart literacy to about 10,000 people. It has also been decided to protect Railway colony children (85 per cent) and all pregnant women by 1990 and the Zonal Railways have been advised to step up this year's Immunisation activities accordingly. 3(Three) Workshops involving family planning doctors have already been organised.

Indian Troops in Maldives

2232. SHRI P. N. SUKUL: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether any Indian troops are still being kept in Maldives for assisting the Government of Maldives in maintaining peace and stability in those islands; and

(b) if so, for how long they are likely to be retained there?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI P. V. NARASIMHA RAO): (a) and (b) A small contingent of about 305 Indian troops is in Maldives at the express request of the Government of that country and will be withdrawn as soon as the Government of Maldives is satisfied about the security situation there.

Advisory bodies to the IAAI and N.A.A

2233. KUMARI SUSHILA TIRIA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what supervision exists to ensure that International Airports Authority of India and National Airports